Kick-Off Meeting of the Urban Certification Ad Hoc Work Group CALFED Water Use Efficiency Program

FINAL PURPOSE STATEMENT

(Revised based on 2/28/02 Ad Hoc Work Group meeting and subsequent e-mail review)

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program is convening an Urban Certification Ad Hoc Work Group to assist the Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Program Manager in developing a well informed, implementable and broadly supported urban certification process.

The Ad Hoc Work Group will serve as an informal forum for affected stakeholder communities to provide the WUE Program Manager with individual advice and conduct fact-finding on selected topics related to developing an urban certification framework.

The Ad Hoc Work Group will be a standing body consisting of individuals able to represent diverse perspectives, think creatively and react to iterative staff drafts. Discussions will be public.

In convening this Ad Hoc Work Group, CALFED is committed to a process that is shaped by and consistent with the following fundamental considerations:

- Value of past urban certification discussions. CALFED recognizes the significant progress made in past urban certification discussions and will use the results of these deliberations to inform the Ad Hoc Work Group's efforts.
- Need to adhere to ROD deadlines. CALFED intends to structure the Ad Hoc Work Group's discussions in a manner that enables it to satisfy deadlines and commitments articulated in the August 2000 Record of Decision.
- Linkage to technical deliberations within the CUWCC. To the extent practicable, CALFED will rely on ongoing technical and operational discussions within the California Urban Water Conservation Council to inform the Ad Hoc Work Group's deliberations.
- Importance of program balance. CALFED recognizes the need for balanced implementation across and within all CALFED Program elements. To that end, the Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee (BD-PAC) and the CALFED Policy Group will take stock of progress on both the urban certification framework and other critical CALFED Program elements, and evaluate the appropriate strategy for proceeding with implementation.
- Connection with CALFED agency and stakeholder decision-making processes. Following the Ad Hoc Work Group's deliberations, CALFED staff will propose an urban certification framework. This proposal will be fully vetted first informally with relevant and interested stakeholder groups, then with CALFED's formal advisory bodies (WUE Subcommittee, BD-PAC). In doing so, CALFED will identify areas of broad stakeholder agreement; similarly, it will highlight and explain divergent views where they exist.